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STATE DOCUMENTS

South Carolina State Library Board

NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

August 1960

37th Issue

AID STILL NEEDED FOR EXTENSION OF LSA

The House of Representatives will call up H. R. 12125, which provides for the extension of the Library Service Act, under suspension of the rules on August 22.

The rules may be suspended only by affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members voting, a quorum being present. Therefore, all South Carolina Members of the House must be urged to be present and vote favorably.

Librarians, trustees, friends of libraries and interested citizens are reminded of the importance of personal interviews with their Representatives before they go back to Washington. The improvement and extension of library services under the LSA should be emphasized.

Unless favorable action is taken on August 22, all projects could terminate on June 30, 1961. Future planning is limited by the possibility of this termination date.

Please forward to Miss Nancy Blair, ALA Coordinator, 1001 Main Street, Columbia, S. C., reports on conferences with Representatives. Their agreement to be present and voting on August 22 is greatly desired.

STATE LIBRARY BOARD REORGANIZES

In order to achieve a greater degree of efficiency and to prepare for the future growth and development of state level services to public libraries in the state, the State Library Board has adopted a new organization plan. The services of the State Board will be divided into three areas: Technical Services, Field Services, and Reader Services. Each of these divisions will be headed by an experienced librarian who will plan the work of the division in relation to the overall services of the state board. Miss Lois Barbare, at present Catalog and Order Librarian, will become Chief Technical Services Librarian in charge of that division and Miss Dorothy Smith, Field Consultant, will become head of the Field Services Division. A head for the Readers Services Division will be appointed when that division has developed to a greater extent. At present Mr. Bryan Roberts, Reference Consultant, will continue as head of Reference and Interlibrary Loan Services.

The reorganization of the State Library Board followed a study made by the staff of jobs being done. Under the reorganization each position on the staff will come under the appropriate division. It is hoped through this reorganization to establish more clearly lines of authority and responsibility and to insure more careful planning of the total program.

REFERENCE AND INTERLIBRARY LOAN SERVICE USE IN 1960

During recent visits to libraries over the state, R. Bryan Roberts, Reference Consultant of the State Library Board, was deeply appreciative of the praise and constructive criticism offered concerning the interlibrary loan and reference service.

The figures show more than a 12% increase over the number of books sent last year; reference questions answered have more than doubled. (See attached report for details).

The State Library Board is always anxious to fill requests promptly. An important factor in interlibrary loan is that the book be supplied within 2 days after the date of the request. To maintain this type service request cards must be uniformly completed with every space filled in and verification, if possible, by the library initiating the request.

Plans are being made to revise the interlibrary loan rules and regulations effective approximately September 1. The purpose of this revision is to achieve better and more prompt service for all libraries.

CAROLINA TRAILS A--WINDING

Over 7,000 children will receive certificates for completing the requirements of the Carolina Trails Vacation Reading Club.

The contribution of local historical commissions and societies in Calhoun, Lancaster, and Oconee counties have been outstanding. Forest rangers have also been most generous with exhibits and talks on S. C. Forests. Recognition is also due to the many individuals who contributed their services by conducting programs and telling stories.

The State Library Board is interested in receiving copies of any narrative reports on the club, and any publicity, especially pictures.

JOINT TRUSTEE--PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION MEETINGS

Miss Carrie Gene Ashley, Chairman, Public Library Section, S. C. L. A., sends the following message to all public librarians:

"There will be a joint luncheon meeting of the Public Library and Trustee Sections of S. C. L. A. at the general convention in October. All public librarians are urged to encourage trustee attendance at the luncheon, Friday, October 28, as well as at the business meeting which follows in the afternoon. Guest speaker for the luncheon is Miss Helen Harris, former librarian of the Lawson-McGee Library in Knoxville, Tennessee. Miss Harris is now retired, but is still active in the library field. She has spoken to meetings of trustees and librarians at many library association meetings including the national association in Canada. Miss Walker states that she has heard her speak on the library trustee and that her presentation was excellent. Since this is a special joint project of the two sections, we are most anxious for good attendance at both the luncheon and the business session."

CAMPAIGN FOR NINETY-SIX BRANCH

A branch of the Greenwood City and County Library is the goal of a fund-raising drive inaugurated July 2, 1960 in Ninety-Six. Pledges of \$12.00 are being sought from individuals and organizations. The funds are to be used for rent, equipment and utilities for the branch library which the Greenwood Library will operate in lieu of a bookmobile stop which Ninety-Six has outgrown.

Mr. Sam Callicott, chairman of the campaign, reported \$500 in cash and pledges on July 15.

The library project is sponsored by the Lion's Club, Masonic Lodge, American Legion, Ninety-Six Book Club, and the Ninety-Six Town Council.

This development is the result of several conferences between local groups and Miss Elizabeth Porcher, Librarian of the Greenwood City and County Library.

The Ninety-Six Library Committee plans a more permanent bases of support, such as a tax, for the future.

CHARLESTON LIBRARY'S OPENING DATE POSTPONED

September 15 has been set as a new target date for beginning the move into Charleston County Library's new \$703,159 library building. Construction of the

glass and marble structure is nearing completion and August 1 had been set as a tentative moving date. Postponement has been caused, however, by a delay in the delivery of equipment and furniture by one of the bidders on the contract.

The new library is located on King and Hutson Streets, and will replace the present library at 94 Rutledge Avenue. The library will be closed for a short period of time in order to transfer books and equipment to the new building.

The interior of the building includes conference rooms, lecture rooms, typing booths, a music room and other features for convenient library service.

THOROUGH STUDY OF LIBRARY CIRCULATION METHODS PLANNED

Plans for a full-fledged study of library circulation methods were announced July 1 by Verner W. Clapp, President of the Council on Library Resources, Inc. The circulation, or lending systems of libraries will be investigated toward the end of developing improved book circulation systems applicable to libraries of different types and sizes.

An estimated billion books each year are charged out and back across the loan desks of American libraries. If the per-transaction cost of these loans can be reduced substantially overall savings will be achieved.

The financial aspect is only one facet of the circulation problem, however. Existing book-charging procedures are also deficient from the administrative viewpoint, involving problems of staffing, interchangeability of procedures as between branch libraries and the central library, insufficient information, and of course failure to provide maximum availability of books when wanted.

Four areas of work will be investigated in the present study: book preparation for circulation, registration of borrowers, charging and discharging of books, and processing of overdue books. In each of the four areas studies will be made in libraries of various sizes and types to secure information as to comparative costs and an account of the variations produced by differences of size, type, requirements and methods.

The study is expected to result in a report summarizing the findings and presenting conclusions and recommendations. Preparation of a manual which will enable each library to evaluate its book-charging system is planned. Included in the manual will be specific recommendations regarding machine applications and, when appropriate, the engineering and procedural requirements for the most effective machines.

1961 DOROTHY CANFIELD FISHER LIBRARY AWARD

Applications may be prepared now for the third Dorothy Canfield Fisher Library Award, which was established in 1959 by the direction of the Book-of-the-Month Club as a memorial to Mrs. Fisher. The \$5,000 award of 1959 was supplemented by nine \$1,000 awards in 1960 and this practice will be followed in the future. Obtain detailed information from the State Library Board, 1001 Main Street, Columbia 1, S. C.

WALTERBORO ROTARY ENDORSES NLW

One of the activities of Colleton County's National Library Week Committee was to send a letter to the President of all service clubs and organizations in the county. The following is an excerpt from the reply of Mr. Obie Seymour, President of the Walterboro Rotary Club.

"May I assure you that each and every member of the Walterboro Rotary Club appreciates your thoughtful interest in our organization and in our wonderful new library.

"Your suggestions as to how the Rotary Club might be helped in channeling their thoughts to the many treasures that may be had by a visit or visits to the library will be a big help for our program chairman. He has indicated already that he will start making plans now for a "Library" program.

"I sincerely hope that all Rotarians will begin to show more interest, and will help make the 1960 theme for National Library Week come true in Colleton County."

YOUR PROBLEMS

by

Anne Library

Dear Anne:

We like the people at the State Library Board, but we are getting a little tired of their coming down here and poking around and telling us that this is wrong, that we ought to do this better, that this is out of date, and that we ought to be thinking about extending service in one direction or another. After all, we have a pretty good library and we have had it since 1916 when it was declared to be one

of the best libraries in the state. We cannot see that it has changed much since then except that it looks prettier now that the trees have grown up thicker. Why can't the State Library Board give us a pat on the back instead of a kick in the pants?

Bessie Bell

Dear Bessie Bell:

If you are still riding in a 1916 Ford your road is a rocky one and if you are still using a library which has not changed since 1916 you need a violent awakening. What was good enough for your community in 1916 is so far out of date now that it is a liability. Wake up and put that sleeping beauty under the thick trees to work for your community.

Do you have a problem? Write to Anne Library.

LIBRARIANS ARE TALKING ABOUT

German Colony Protocol 1849-1874, translated by B. E. Schaefer and published by the Oconee County Library, Walhalla, S. C. Contents are the minutes of the German Colonization Society of Charleston, with plats and an index. Useful to historians and genealogists. Price \$10. Address orders to the Oconee County Library.

The Fund Raiser, the Magazine for Profitable Programing. A quarterly publication full of money-raising ideas for any group. Price \$2.00 per year. Order from: Jady Hill, Exeter, New Hampshire.

BOOKS ON SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORY

The Reprint Company, 154 W. Cleveland Park Drive, Station B., Spartanburg, S. C., has reprinted four significant volumes of South Carolina history and has the fifth in process. Authors, titles and prices are as follows:

Landrum, J. B. O. Colonial and Revolutionary History of Upper South Carolina. \$5.50.

Landrum, J. B. O. History of Spartanburg County. \$10.50. (Available in late August)

Logan, J. H. History of the Upper Country of South Carolina. \$10.50.

Ramsey, D. C. History of South Carolina. 2 volumes, each \$8.00.

Mrs. Oliphant contributes the following announcement:

Oliphant, Mary C. Simms, The New Simms History of South Carolina, Centennial Edition, Columbia, S. C. The State Company, 1940.

A new edition of the school History of South Carolina has now been issued, but this centennial volume is an extremely useful supplementary book containing reading material, pictures, and maps not included in the new edition. As long as available, this book may be ordered from: The School Book Commission, John C. Calhoun Building, Columbia, S. C. at the low price of \$1.00 postpaid.

Oliphant, Mary C. Simms, The South Carolina Reader, Columbia, S. C. The State Company, 1927. This valuable book, now out-of-print, contains authentic reading material on many phases of the state's economy--agricultural, industrial, geological, cultural, historical. Based on sixth, seventh, or eighth grade level. The book may be ordered from: Mary C. Simms Oliphant, 107 James Street, Greenville, S. C., at \$1.00 per copy, plus 25¢ mailing charges. In lots of ten, postage will be prepaid.

SEEN HERE & THERE

The Chester County Library displaying children's art work.

The Aiken County Library exhibiting original land grants dating back to 1733. The documents, shown in a case maintained by the Aiken County Historical Commission, included one issued by George II and others signed by South Carolina governors William Moultrie, John Drayton and Charles Pinckney. One document in the exhibit bore the original seal of the State of South Carolina.

The Lancaster County Library exhibiting handwork of the Lancaster A. R. P. Church's Bible School.

Miss Margaret Mahon, Children's Librarian, Greenville Public Library, speaking to the Gridley Club of Greenville on the value of reading and the need to bring the local library up to national public library standards.

The McCormick County Library receiving from a local garden club a gift of books and furniture to establish a Garden Center.

The Chester County Library sporting a fresh coat of paint.

The Eastover Branch of the Richland County Public Library the subject of a visit and a newspaper story by Columbia Record columnist, John Bigham.

Spartanburg's Library Board and City Council coming to terms about General Morgan's statue, thus procuring the General a new home on the library grounds.

Mrs. H. R. Rice, member of the Lancaster County Library Board, making the rounds with the bookmobile.

The Greenwood City and County Public Library earning high praise for its new Annual Report brochure, printed by a library-minded cotton mill.

The Anderson County Library's recently opened Williamston branch receiving from delegation member John C. Pracht, Jr., copies of the South Carolina House Journal, 1957-59. Mr. Pracht said that the placing of these volumes in the library was in keeping with his belief in "open government".

Greenville's need for a new library building editorialized by the Greenville Piedmont.

Greenwood City and County Public Library now in possession of an Auto-Page, Drive-Up Book Return Box, wire book supports, and Kick-Step stool and draperies for the West reference room window-----all purchased with gift money.

Approximately 300 children too young to join the Carolina Trails Reading Club receiving certificates for attendance at the Summer Story Hour series at the Richland County Public Library.

A WARNING

The following quotation from an article, "Financing a Public Library," by Mrs. Ines C. Hoffmann in the June 1960 issue of Illinois Libraries pertains to the state of Illinois but carries implications that are of importance in South Carolina:

"As a general rule a city may levy a tax only for the needs of a particular year and cannot levy to accumulate a fund for some long-range project. Levies for a future or for an indefinite purpose are considered by the courts an unnecessary accumulation of money in the public treasury and 'unjust to the people, in that it deprives them of the use of their money for a period of time, and in that the accumulation of money in excess of needs furnishes a temptation to those in charge to expend public funds recklessly and more than is needed.' (People v. Roth, 389 Ill. 287). Libraries sometimes ignore this rule, perhaps relying on the superior quality and integrity of library boards and administrators, but possibly through ignorance. Such action could be successfully challenged, however..."

South Carolina libraries should be warned that accumulating funds from appropriations made for annual operation and services may lead to the loss of these funds. Funds appropriated for operation and service should be spent for those purposes.